

## CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

**I. (a) PLAINTIFFS**

Vincent Peterson

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Philadelphia County  
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

Simon & Simon, PC  
1818 Market St., Suite 2000  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

**DEFENDANTS**

AutoZone, Inc.

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Sheby County, TN  
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF  
THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

**II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff ☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
- ☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant ☒ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

**III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES** (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

- |   | PTF                                   | DEF                        |   | PTF                        | DEF                                   |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Citizen of This State                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State     | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4            |
| Citizen of Another State                | <input type="checkbox"/> 2            | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3            | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation  | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6            |

**IV. NATURE OF SUIT** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)Click here for: [Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.](#)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	<b>PERSONAL INJURY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice <b>PERSONAL INJURY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability <b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other <b>LABOR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act <b>IMMIGRATION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 <b>PROPERTY RIGHTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark <input type="checkbox"/> 880 Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016 <b>SOCIAL SECURITY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) <b>FEDERAL TAX SUITS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit (15 USC 1681 or 1692) <input type="checkbox"/> 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration <input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
<b>REAL PROPERTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<b>CIVIL RIGHTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education <b>PRISONER PETITIONS</b> <b>Habeas Corpus:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <b>Other:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition <input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement			

**V. ORIGIN** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☒ 1 Original Proceeding ☐ 2 Removed from State Court ☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court ☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened ☐ 5 Transferred from Another District (specify) ☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation - Transfer ☐ 8 Multidistrict Litigation - Direct File

**VI. CAUSE OF ACTION**

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):  
28 U.S.C. § 1391(a) (1) and (2)  
Brief description of cause:  
Motor Vehicle Accident

**VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:**

☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.

DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:

JURY DEMAND: ☒ Yes ☐ No**VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY**

(See instructions):

JUDGE

DOCKET NUMBER

DATE

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

11/24/2021

Marc Simon

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT #

AMOUNT

APPLYING IFP

JUDGE

MAG. JUDGE

**DESIGNATION FORM**

(to be used by counsel or pro se plaintiff to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to the appropriate calendar)

Address of Plaintiff: Vincent Peterson - 945 Granite St., Philadelphia, PA 19124

Address of Defendant: AutoZone, Inc. - 123 S Front St., Memphis, TN 38103

Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: intersection of N 5th St & W Allegheny Ave., in Philadelphia, PA.

**RELATED CASE, IF ANY:**

Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Terminated: \_\_\_\_\_

Civil cases are deemed related when **Yes** is answered to any of the following questions:

- |  |                              |  |
|--|------------------------------|--|
| 1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?            | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action of this court? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights case filed by the same individual?  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case ☐ is / ☒ is not related to any case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court except as noted above.

DATE: 11/24/2021 Marc Simon 201798  
Attorney-at-Law / Pro Se Plaintiff Attorney I.D. # (if applicable)

**CIVIL: (Place a ✓ in one category only)**

**A. Federal Question Cases:**

- ☐ 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts  
☐ 2. FELA  
☐ 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury  
☐ 4. Antitrust  
☐ 5. Patent  
☐ 6. Labor-Management Relations  
☐ 7. Civil Rights  
☐ 8. Habeas Corpus  
☐ 9. Securities Act(s) Cases  
☐ 10. Social Security Review Cases  
☐ 11. All other Federal Question Cases  
(Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:**

- ☐ 1. Insurance Contract and Other Contracts  
☐ 2. Airplane Personal Injury  
☐ 3. Assault, Defamation  
☐ 4. Marine Personal Injury  
☒ 5. Motor Vehicle Personal Injury  
☐ 6. Other Personal Injury (Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ 7. Products Liability  
☐ 8. Products Liability – Asbestos  
☐ 9. All other Diversity Cases  
(Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION**

(The effect of this certification is to remove the case from eligibility for arbitration.)

I, Marc Simon, counsel of record or pro se plaintiff, do hereby certify:

☒ Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, § 3(c) (2), that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs:

☐ Relief other than monetary damages is sought.

DATE: 11/24/2021 Marc Simon 201798  
Attorney-at-Law / Pro Se Plaintiff Attorney I.D. # (if applicable)

NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM**

Vincent Peterson	:	CIVIL ACTION
v.	:	
	:	
AutoZone, Inc.	:	NO.
	:	

In accordance with the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for plaintiff shall complete a Case Management Track Designation Form in all civil cases at the time of filing the complaint and serve a copy on all defendants. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse side of this form.) In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties, a Case Management Track Designation Form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.

**SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CASE MANAGEMENT TRACKS:**

- (a) Habeas Corpus – Cases brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 through § 2255. ( )
- (b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits. ( )
- (c) Arbitration – Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2. ( )
- (d) Asbestos – Cases involving claims for personal injury or property damage from exposure to asbestos. ( )
- (e) Special Management – Cases that do not fall into tracks (a) through (d) that are commonly referred to as complex and that need special or intense management by the court. (See reverse side of this form for a detailed explanation of special management cases.) ( )
- (f) Standard Management – Cases that do not fall into any one of the other tracks. (X)

11/24/2021	Marc Simon	Vincent Peterson
<b>Date</b>	<b>Attorney-at-law</b>	<b>Attorney for</b>
215-467-4666	267-639-9006	MarcSimon@gosimon.com
<b>Telephone</b>	<b>FAX Number</b>	<b>E-Mail Address</b>

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

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Vincent Peterson :  
945 Granite St. :  
Philadelphia, PA 19124 :  
Plaintiff :

v. :

AutoZone, Inc. :  
123 S Front St. :  
Memphis, TN 38103 :  
Defendant :

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# \_\_\_\_\_

## **COMPLAINT**

### **PARTIES**

1. Plaintiff, Vincent Peterson, is a resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, residing at the address listed in the caption of this Complaint.

2. Defendant, AutoZone, Inc., is a corporate entity authorized to conduct business in the State of Tennessee, with a business address listed in the caption of this Complaint.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

3. This Court has jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter of this Civil Action-Complaint in that the Plaintiff, Vincent Peterson, is a citizen of Pennsylvania and the Defendant, AutoZone, Inc., upon information and belief is a corporate entity with its principal place of business in Tennessee and the amount in controversy in this case, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds the sum of \$75,000.

4. Venue is proper in this jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a) (1) and (2) in that this is a judicial district in which a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims asserted in this Complaint occurred in this judicial district.

### **FACTS**

5. On or about January 29, 2021, Plaintiff, Vincent Peterson, was the passengr of a bus, which was traveling at or near the intersection of N 5<sup>th</sup> St & W Allegheny Ave., in Philadelphia, PA.

6. At or about the same date and time, a driver for AutoZone, Inc., was the operator of a motor vehicle, owned by Defendant, AutoZone, Inc., which was traveling at or around the aforementioned location of the Plaintiff's vehicle.

7. At or about the same date and time, Defendants' vehicle was involved in a collision with Plaintiff's vehicle.

8. At all times relevant hereto, a driver for AutoZone, Inc., was operating the aforesaid Defendant, AutoZone, Inc.'s , vehicle as an agent, servant and/or employee, acting within the scope of it's agency.

9. The aforesaid motor vehicle collision was the result of Defendant, negligently, and/or carelessly, operating his/her vehicle in such a manner so as to strike Plaintiff's vehicle.

10. The aforesaid motor vehicle collision was a direct result of the negligence, and/or carelessness of the Defendants and not the result of any action or failure to act by the Plaintiff.

11. As a result of the collision, Plaintiff suffered severe and permanent injuries, including to the neck and left shoulder, as well as left knee pain, as are more fully set forth below.

**COUNT I**  
**Vincent Peterson v. AutoZone, Inc.**  
**Negligent Entrustment**

12. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing paragraphs of this Complaint as if set forth fully at length herein.

13. The negligence, and/or carelessness of the Defendant, which was the proximate cause of the aforesaid motor vehicle collision and the resultant injuries sustained by the Plaintiff, consisted of but are not limited to the following:

- a. Permitting a driver for AutoZone, Inc., to operate the motor vehicle without first ascertaining whether or not he was capable of properly operating said vehicle;
- b. Permitting a driver for AutoZone, Inc., to operate the motor vehicle when Defendant, AutoZone, Inc., knew, or in the exercise of due care and

diligence, should have known that a driver for AutoZone, Inc., was capable of committing the acts of negligence set forth above;

- c. Failing to warn those persons, including the Plaintiff, that Defendant, AutoZone, Inc., knew, or in the existence of due care and diligence should have known, that the Plaintiff would be exposed to a driver for AutoZone, Inc.'s negligent operation of the motor vehicle; and
- d. Otherwise negligently entrusting said vehicle to said individual, a driver for AutoZone, Inc..

14. As a direct and consequential result of the negligent, and/or careless conduct of the defendant, described above, the Plaintiff suffered various serious and permanent personal injuries, serious impairment of bodily function and/or permanent serious disfigurement and/or aggravation of pre-existing conditions, including to the neck and left shoulder, as well as left knee pain, all to Plaintiff's great loss and detriment.

15. As a result of these injuries, all of which are permanent in nature and all of which are to Plaintiff's great financial detriment and loss, Plaintiff has in the past, is presently and may in the future suffer great anguish, sickness and agony and will continue to suffer for an indefinite time into the future.

16. As an additional result of the carelessness, and/or negligence of Defendant, Plaintiff has suffered emotional injuries, along with the physical injuries suffered.

17. As a further result of Plaintiff's injuries, he/she has in the past, is presently and may in the future undergo a great loss of earnings and/or earning capacity, all to Plaintiff's further loss and detriment.

18. Furthermore, in addition to all the injuries and losses suffered by Plaintiff, Plaintiff has also incurred or will incur medical, rehabilitative and other related expenses in an amount equal to and/or in excess of the basic personal injury protection benefits required by the Pennsylvania Vehicle Financial Responsibility Law, 75 Pa.C.S. Section 1701, et. Seq., as amended, for which he/she makes a claim for payment in the present action.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Vincent Peterson, prays for judgment in plaintiff's favor and against Defendant, AutoZone, Inc., in an amount in excess of Seventy-Five Thousand (\$75,000.00) Dollars, plus all costs and other relief this court deems necessary.

**COUNT II**  
**Vincent Peterson v. AutoZone, Inc.**  
**Respondent Superior**

19. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing paragraphs of this Complaint as if set forth fully at length herein.

20. The negligence, and/or carelessness of the Defendant, AutoZone, Inc., itself and by and through its agent, servant and/or employee, a driver for AutoZone, Inc., acting at all times relevant hereto within the scope of it's agency, which was the direct and proximate cause of the aforesaid motor vehicle collision and the resultant injuries sustained by the plaintiffs, consisted of but are not limited to the following:

- a. Striking the rear driver side of the vehicle in which Plaintiff was a passenger;
- b. Operating his/her vehicle into Plaintiff's lane of travel;
- c. Failing to maintain proper distance between vehicles;



- d. Operating said vehicle in a negligent, and/or careless manner so as to strike the vehicle in which Plaintiff was a passenger, without regard for the rights or safety of Plaintiffs or others;
- e. Failing to have said vehicle under proper and adequate control;
- f. Operating said vehicle at a dangerous and excessive rate of speed under the circumstances;
- g. Violation of the assured clear distance rule;
- h. Failure to keep a proper lookout;
- i. Failure to apply brakes earlier to stop the vehicle without striking the vehicle in which Plaintiff was a passenger;
- j. Being inattentive to his/her duties as an operator of a motor vehicle;
- k. Disregarding traffic lanes, patterns, and other devices;
- l. Driving at a high rate of speed which was high and dangerous for conditions;
- m. Failing to remain continually alert while operating said vehicle;
- n. Failing to perceive the highly apparent danger to others which the actions and/or inactions posed;
- o. Failing to give Plaintiffs meaningful warning signs concerning the impending collision;
- p. Failing to be highly vigilant and maintain sufficient control of said vehicle and to bring it to a stop on the shortest possible notice;

- q. Operating said vehicle with disregard for the rights of Plaintiff, even though he/she was aware or should have been aware of the presence of Plaintiff and the threat of harm posed to him/her;
- r. Continuing to operate the vehicle in a direction towards the Plaintiff's vehicle when he/she saw, or in the exercise of reasonable diligence, should have seen, that further operation in that direction would result in a collision;
- s. Failing to operate said vehicle in compliance with the applicable laws and ordinances of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, pertaining to the operation and control of motor vehicles; and
- t. Being otherwise careless and/or negligent under the circumstances.

21. As a direct and consequential result of the negligent, and/or careless conduct of the Defendant, described above, the Plaintiff suffered various serious and permanent personal injuries, serious impairment of bodily function and/or permanent serious disfigurement and/or aggravation of pre-existing conditions, including to the neck and left shoulder, as well as left knee pain, all to Plaintiff's great loss and detriment.

22. As a result of these injuries, all of which are permanent in nature and all of which are to Plaintiff's great financial detriment and loss, Plaintiff has in the past, is presently and may in the future suffer great anguish, sickness and agony and will continue to suffer for an indefinite time into the future.

23. As an additional result of the carelessness, and/or negligence of Defendant, Plaintiff has suffered emotional injuries, along with the physical injuries suffered.

24. As a further result of Plaintiff's injuries, he/she has in the past, is presently and may in the future undergo a great loss of earnings and/or earning capacity, all to Plaintiff's further loss and detriment.

25. As a direct result of the negligent, and/or careless conduct of the Defendant, plaintiff suffered damage to his personal property, all to Plaintiff's great loss and detriment.

26. Furthermore, in addition to all the injuries and losses suffered by Plaintiff, Plaintiff has also incurred or will incur medical, rehabilitative and other related expenses in an amount equal to and/or in excess of the basic personal injury protection benefits required by the Pennsylvania Vehicle Financial Responsibility Law, 75 Pa.C.S. Section 1701, et. Seq., as amended, for which he/she makes a claim for payment in the present action.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Vincent Peterson, prays for judgment in Plaintiffs' favor and against Defendant, AutoZone, Inc., in an amount in excess of Seventy-Five Thousand (\$75,000.00) Dollars, plus all costs and other relief this court deems necessary.

SIMON & SIMON, P.C.

BY: Marc Simon  
Marc Simon, Esquire